

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/789,555

Examiner

James J. Leybourne

Applicant(s)

GLUKHOY, YURI

Art Unit

2881

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--  
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION-ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment received Feb. 22, 2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08).  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413).  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment  
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*WV*  
KETT T. SCOTT  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. According to the "Amendment" received February 22, 2006, the specification has been amended; claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 23 and 28 have been amended.

***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's Remarks received February 22, 2006 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-29 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 1, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious a time-of-flight mass spectrometer comprising:

- an elongated sealed vacuum chamber having at least two inlet pods for admission of at least two flows of charged particles simultaneously and independently of each other;
- electrostatic field generation means for generating an electrostatic field for causing charged particles of said at least two flows of charged particles to fly along different curvilinear trajectories in a direct path from the input side towards an opposite side of the vacuum chamber; and in a return path from said opposite side to said input side;
- a charged particle detector means, located in the vicinity of the inlet ports; means for detecting times of collisions of said charged particles with said charged particle detector means and
- means for determining the time of flight of said charged particles independently for each of the at least two flows.

Claims 2-29 are allowed by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

**Conclusion**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Leybourne whose telephone number is 571 262-2478. The examiner can normally be reached on M\_F 10:00AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Lee can be reached on 571 272-2477. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*JLL*  
JAMES J. LEYBOURNE  
EXAMINER

April 29, 2008

JJL